WHEREAS, the United States decennial Census, which is mandated by the U.S. Constitution, enumerates every person residing in the country regardless of citizenship status, and is fundamental to a fair and representative democracy;

WHEREAS, the United States Census has critical implications for the state of California, and determines its allocation of seats in the House of Representatives and 900 billion dollars in federal funding;

WHEREAS, the California Legislative Affairs Office determined California was “Undercounted” in previous Census, costing California at least two billion Dollars in federal funds over ten years and a seat in the House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, California is home to 13% of the child population of the United States, which includes nearly half of all children living in immigrant families and the highest number of Dual Language Learners/English Language learners in the country (Migration Policy Institute);

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, Los Angeles County is the hardest to count county in the country and home to populations that are most frequently undercounted, including children under six, youth, immigrants, renters, homeless populations, those with Limited-English proficiency, as well as those who live in places where enumerators are unable to gain entry including apartment buildings;

WHEREAS, the addition of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census Questionnaire has created an environment of fear and distrust in immigrant communities;

WHEREAS, a fair and accurate count on the 2020 Census will help ensure the Los Angeles County’s communities, families, and students are represented in our democracy and receive critical services and supports across education;

WHEREAS, our schools depend on Federal dollars determined by Census Data that go to vital programs, such as Early Head Start and Head Start; Title I grants; Special Education; Title IV-E Foster Care; Child Care and Development Block Grant and various health programs;

WHEREAS, a full understanding of the Census as a participatory process, its safety and constitutionality is of utmost importance because of its implications in the history of the United States;
WHEREAS, education specialists at Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) assisted Sacramento County Office of Education to design and launch a specialized curriculum regarding Census for grades 5th, 8th, 11th and 12th with different aspects of U.S. History, Geography, and Principles of American Democracy, and Economics; and

WHEREAS, LACOE will be adopting an outreach plan that ensures a complete count of students and their families residing within the County in the 2020 Census and has requested that this District collaborate in outreach efforts including: using the Schools-Based Communications Outreach Toolkit provided by the California Complete Count Committee; involving their student body and parents in civic engagement activities and coordinating with LACOE.

(To be adapted to the District’s ability)
BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education encourages the superintendent, principals, teachers, school staff, parent and student organizations to relay the importance of the Census to parents and community members to ensure everyone is counted to maximize political representation and funding appropriations throughout the County; and

(OPTIONAL)
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the District will use the Count Me In! Census curriculum in our schools, and will support civic engagement activities; and

(OPTIONAL)
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the District will support activities that maximize opportunities to ensure a complete count of all students and families in 2020 such as Census0020Week (between March 23 and April 9, 2020).

ADOPTED this _____ day of ________ 2019 by the ___________________ in __________________, California.

______________________________
Superintendent